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U.S. Bureau of the Census

Special census of... Greensboro, N.C. ...

Washington

1923

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
W. M. STEUART, *Director*

Brc

SPECIAL CENSUS OF THE POPULATION OF GREENSBORO, N. C.

APRIL 16, 1923

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PREPARED UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF
SAMUEL D. RHOADS
OF THE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

WASHINGTON
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
1923

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ENUMERATION OF THE POPULATION OF GREENSBORO, N. C.

INTRODUCTION.

A special census of the city of Greensboro, N. C., was ordered by the Secretary of Commerce, at the request of the mayor, Claude Kiser, upon the representation made that the city had extended its boundaries and that the population had about doubled that shown by the Fourteenth Decennial Census, namely, 19,861. Accordingly, the request was made that an enumeration of the population of the city be had under the direction and supervision of the Bureau of the Census.

Under the provisions of the general order, dated March 30, 1923, it was directed that the special census should be taken as of April 16, 1923, and Samuel D. Rhoads, of the Bureau of the Census, was designated supervisor in charge of the enumeration, with George B. Weitzel as his assistant.

The expense of the special census was borne by the city of Greensboro, in conformity to the terms of an agreement between the Director of the Census and the mayor of the city, acting in behalf of the city.

The supervisor and his assistant from the Bureau of the Census arrived in Greensboro April 8, 1923, and on April 16 the actual enumeration began. Thirty-two enumerators were employed, and the enumeration of the city was completed April 23; and by April 28 all of the schedules had been carefully examined and payments to the enumerators had been made.

FORM OF SCHEDULE USED.

The form of schedule used, the headings of which are reproduced below, was made as simple as possible, and the questions asked related only to relationship to the head of the family, sex, color or race, and age.

ENUMERATION OF THE INHABITANTS OF THE CITY OF GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA.

ENUMERATION DISTRICT.....TOWNSHIP.....

INCORPORATED PLACE.....WARD.....PRECINCT.....

LOCATION.		NAME of each person, whose usual place of abode on April 16, 1923, was in this family. Enter the surname first, then the given name and middle initial, if any. Include every person living on April 16, 1923. Omit children born since April 16, 1923.	RELATION.	SEX, COLOR, AND AGE.		
Street.	Number house.		Relationship of this person to the head of the family.	Sex.	Color or race.	Age at last birthday.
1		2	3	4	5	6

RESULTS OF THE ENUMERATION.

The city of Greensboro is located in the northern part of North Carolina and in the center of Guilford County. By legislative act a new charter was granted, effective March 15, 1923, which extended the boundaries of the city from 4 square miles to approximately 17 square miles.

Textile mills, fertilizer plants, and many other industries, and several large insurance companies are located within the city limits.

The annexation of new territory in which several important industries were located and a considerable increase in population since the 1920 census within the old city limits accounts for the difference in the returns of the special enumeration and that of the Fourteenth Decennial Census. In the last three years there has been increased employment in the large textile mills and other industries, and extensive building operations have been undertaken, as shown by the fact that approximately 1,500 dwellings and other buildings have been completed or are now in course of construction.

The general results of the special census of the population of Greensboro, N. C., are given in Table 1, with comparative figures for earlier censuses.

TABLE 1.—POPULATION OF GREENSBORO, N. C.: 1870–1923.

YEAR.	Date of enumeration.	Population.	INCREASE.	
			Number.	Per cent.
1923	Apr. 16	43,525	23,664	119.1
1920	Jan. 1	19,861	3,966	25.0
1910	Apr. 15	15,895	5,860	58.4
1900	June 1	10,035	6,718	202.5
1890	June 1	3,317	1,212	57.6
1880	June 1	2,105	1,608	323.5
1870	June 1	497	.....	.....

The population of Greensboro, as shown by the special census, taken as of April 16, 1923, is 43,525, as compared with a population of 19,861 in 1920. It was first enumerated at the census of 1870, with a population of 497.

The increase in population from January 1, 1920, to April 16, 1923, a period of about three and one-fourth years, was 23,664, or 119.1 per cent. This rate of increase has been exceeded only twice since the enumeration in 1870, namely, in 1880 and 1900. The distribution of the population of Greensboro, N. C., according to sex, color or race, and age, as shown by the special census of 1923, is given in Tables 2 to 5, comparative figures for the decennial censuses of 1910 and 1920 also being shown in Tables 2, 3, and 4.

As shown by Table 2 the males formed a higher percentage (49.3) of the total population in 1923 than in 1920 or in 1910, a condition undoubtedly due to the industrial expansion previously noted. The ratio of males to females, as given in Table 3, also reflects this condition, there being 97.1 males to each 100 females in 1923 as compared with 91.2 in 1920 and 87.9 in 1910.

The white population, as shown by Table 2, is increasing more rapidly than the negro, and represents a larger proportion of the total population at each enumeration. There was an increase from 1920 to 1923 of 129.5 per cent in the white population and of 95.1 per cent in the negro population. The proportion of white in the total population has increased from 64.1 per cent in 1910 to 73.2 per cent in 1923, while the proportion of negroes has decreased from 35.9 per cent in 1910 to 26.8 per cent in 1923.

The proportion which males 21 years of age and over form of the total population, as shown by Table 2, is larger in 1923 than at either of the two decennial censuses shown, namely, 27.8 per cent as against 27.2 in 1920 and 26.3 per cent in 1910. This is not true, however, with respect to the proportion of females 21 years of age and over in the total population, which is less in 1923 (28.3 per cent) than in 1920 (30.9) and in 1910 (30.4).

Table 4 gives a comparative summary for 1923, 1920, and 1910, of the age distribution of the total, white, and negro population, for both sexes and for each sex separately.

The number of children of school age, 7 to 14 years, inclusive, as shown by the special census of 1923, is given by sex, for the total, and for the white and negro population separately, in Table 5. The white children constitute 74.3 per cent of the total, but the percentages for each sex differ somewhat, that for the males, 75.8 per cent, being larger than that for females, 72.8 per cent; for the negroes, however, the females are numerically and proportionately larger.

TABLE 2.—POPULATION OF GREENSBORO, N. C., DISTRIBUTED BY SEX, COLOR OR RACE, AND SEX AND AGE, WITH PER CENT OF INCREASE: 1923, 1920, AND 1910.

SUBJECT.	1923		1920		1910		INCREASE.			
							1920–1923		1910–1920	
	Number.	Per cent of total.	Number.	Per cent of total.	Number.	Per cent of total.	Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.
Total	43,525	100.0	19,861	100.0	15,895	100.0	23,664	119.1	3,966	25.0
SEX.										
Male	21,438	49.3	9,476	47.7	7,434	46.8	11,962	126.2	2,042	27.5
Female	22,087	50.7	10,385	52.3	8,461	53.2	11,702	112.7	1,924	22.7
COLOR OR RACE.										
White	31,870	73.2	13,886	69.9	10,184	64.1	17,984	129.5	3,702	36.4
Negro	11,653	26.8	5,973	30.1	5,710	35.9	5,680	95.1	263	4.6
Chinese	2	(1)	2	(1)	1	(1)	.....	.....	1	(2)
SEX AND AGE.										
Male:										
5 years and under	3,046	7.0	1,227	6.2	1,068	6.7	1,819	148.2	159	14.9
6 to 20 years	6,286	14.4	2,854	14.4	2,192	13.8	3,432	120.3	662	30.2
21 years and over	12,106	27.8	5,395	27.2	4,174	26.3	6,711	124.4	1,221	29.3
Female:										
5 years and under	3,085	7.1	1,212	6.1	1,128	7.1	1,873	154.5	84	7.4
6 to 20 years	6,666	15.3	3,038	15.3	2,500	15.7	3,628	119.4	538	21.5
21 years and over	12,336	28.3	6,135	30.9	4,833	30.4	6,201	101.1	1,302	26.9

[1] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent. [2] Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

TABLE 3.—SEX DISTRIBUTION OF THE TOTAL AND OF THE WHITE AND NEGRO POPULATION OF GREENSBORO, N. C.: 1923, 1920, AND 1910.

COLOR OR RACE AND CENSUS YEAR.	Both sexes.	Male.	Female.	Per cent.		Males to 100 females.
				Male.	Female.	
Total population:						
1923	[1] 43,525	[1] 21,438	22,087	49.3	50.7	97.1
1920	[1] 19,861	[1] 9,476	10,385	47.7	52.3	91.2
1910	[2] 15,895	[2] 7,434	8,461	46.8	53.2	87.9
White:						
1923	31,870	15,790	16,080	49.5	50.5	98.2
1920	13,886	6,657	7,229	47.9	52.1	92.1
1910	10,184	4,867	5,317	47.8	52.2	91.5
Negro:						
1923	11,653	5,646	6,007	48.5	51.5	94.0
1920	5,973	2,817	3,156	47.2	52.8	89.3
1910	5,710	2,566	3,144	44.9	55.1	81.6

[1] Includes 2 Chinese. [2] Includes 1 Chinese.

TABLE 4.—AGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE TOTAL AND OF THE WHITE AND NEGRO POPULATION OF GREENSBORO, N. C., BY SEX: 1923, 1920, AND 1910.

COLOR, RACE, AND CENSUS YEAR.	POPULATION.				PER CENT OF TOTAL.		
	Total.	5 years and under.	6 to 20 years.	21 years and over.	5 years and under.	6 to 20 years.	21 years and over.
	BOTH SEXES.						
Total:							
1923	[1] 43,525	6,131	12,952	24,442	14.1	29.7	56.2
1920	[1] 19,861	2,439	5,892	11,530	12.3	29.7	58.1
1910	[2] 15,895	2,196	4,692	9,007	13.8	29.5	56.7
White:							
1923	31,870	4,746	9,398	17,726	14.9	29.5	55.6
1920	13,886	1,763	3,844	8,279	12.7	27.7	59.6
1910	10,184	1,385	2,842	5,957	13.6	27.9	58.5
Negro:							
1923	11,653	1,385	3,554	6,714	11.9	30.5	57.6
1920	5,973	676	2,048	3,249	11.3	34.3	54.4
1910	5,710	811	1,850	3,049	14.2	32.4	53.4
	MALES.						
Total:							
1923	[1] 21,438	3,046	6,286	12,106	14.2	29.3	56.5
1920	[1] 9,476	1,227	2,854	5,395	12.9	30.1	56.9
1910	[2] 7,434	1,068	2,192	4,174	14.4	29.5	56.1
White:							
1923	15,790	2,397	4,604	8,789	15 2	29.2	55.7
1920	6,657	890	1,843	3,924	13.4	27.7	58.9
1910	4,867	675	1,342	2,850	13.9	27.6	58.6
Negro:							
1923	5,646	649	1,682	3,315	11.5	29.8	58.7
1920	2,817	337	1,011	1,469	12.0	35.9	52.1
1910	2,566	393	850	1,323	15.3	33.1	51.6
	FEMALES.						
Total:							
1923	22,087	3,085	6,666	12,336	14.0	30.2	55.9
1920	10,385	1,212	3,038	6,135	11.7	29.3	59.1
1910	8,461	1,128	2,500	4,833	13.3	29.5	57.1
White:							
1923	16,080	2,349	4,794	8,937	14.6	29.8	55.6
1920	7,229	873	2,001	4,355	12.1	27.7	60.2
1910	5,317	710	1,500	3,107	13.4	28.2	58.4
Negro:							
1923	6,007	736	1,872	3,399	12.3	31.2	56.6
1920	3,156	339	1,037	1,780	10.7	32.9	56.4
1910	3,144	418	1,000	1,726	13.3	31.8	54.9

[1] Includes 2 Chinese. [2] Includes 1 Chinese.

TABLE 5.—CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE, 7 TO 14 YEARS, FOR GREENSBORO, N. C., DISTRIBUTED BY SEX AND COLOR OR RACE: 1923.

COLOR OR RACE.	CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE, 7 TO 14 YEARS.					
	Both sexes.		Male.		Female.	
	Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.
Total	6,800	100.0	3,448	100.0	3,352	100.0
White	5,053	74.3	2,613	75.8	2,440	72.8
Negro	1,747	25.7	835	24.2	912	27.2

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